

## *Harlan & Edwina Wagner*

Harlan was born, raised, and died, on the family's Stony Point Ranch in Petaluma CA. Raising, breeding, showing, and selling sheep was his life-long passion. As a youngster, he was a member of the local 4-H club and then Petaluma High School's FFA Chapter. While in FFA, he raised Hereford steers, winning Grand Champion three consecutive years at the county fair and started his prize-winning, purebred Suffolk flock. He graduated from the University of California, Davis CA. Married to his wife, Edwina, for almost 40 years, they raised three sons and one daughter—all of whom had 4-H sheep projects. Besides managing the ranch, he worked as a construction superintendent.

He was a 4-H sheep leader for over 15 years and was voted County Outstanding 4-H Leader. He served as president of the Sonoma Co. 4-H Council and was chairman of many county livestock events. Harlan enjoyed hosting weekend judging days on the ranch for 4-H Clubs, FFA Chapters, and college teams. He also coached winning local 4-H judging teams.

He started his Suffolk flock while a high-school freshman, buying his first group of ewes from a breeder in Sonoma, CA, whose seed stock came from England. Fred Coble, Winters CA, a life-time good friend, was also a source of early seed stock. Harlan became a member of the California Suffolk Sheep Breeders Assn. when he was 18 and a board member at 20, a position he held until his death. He served as president for five years and was later elected a voting, Lifetime Director.

Harlan's goal was to raise an all-purpose, hardy Suffolks that would be valuable as a commercial range ram and win in the show ring. Every year he sold between 60-100 yearling Suffolk range rams at the California range ram sales in Bakersfield, Sacramento, Dixon, and Willows. He was awarded Best Suffolk Consignment four times at the California Ram Sale where over 1,000 head of rams were consigned yearly. He also sold at the Midwest, Oklahoma, Top of the Rockies, and many California purebred sales where he also took his Hampshires and Dorsets.

Harlan served as the CSSBA's long-time sales manager of both the Bakersfield and Willows ram sales. He also helped start up the CSSBA's Purple Circle and Reno All-American Shows and Sales. He was elected to the board of directors of many local, state, and national sheep organizations. He judged at sheep shows and sales, both local and out-of-state. At any of the sales he attended, Harlan could be found checking out all the other breeds as he was entrusted with evaluating and purchasing breeding seed stock for many buyers.

The Stony Point Suffolk flock went on to produce many show and sale champions across the nation. He was proud that his seed stock also produced show champions and sale high-sellers for other breeders. He loved the sheep, the sales, and all the friends he made along the way. He will always be remembered fondly for his ready smile and willingness to share his time and knowledge with others.